

New §371 Application
Based on PCT/EP00/01397
Filed August 17, 2001
Frommer, et al.

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I. The Amendments

The attached English translation of the claims as filed in the corresponding international patent application were amended to conform to standard U.S. practice. As a result, the originally-filed English translation of Claims 1 through 22 were cancelled and replaced with the substitute Claims 1 through 34.

A copy of the claims showing the amendments effected by this substitution of the claims is enclosed. The substitute claims derive their support from the claims as originally filed with amendments as to form rather than substance.

Claims ²³~~1~~-⁵⁶~~34~~ are in the case and are before the Examiner. It is thus seen that no new matter has been presented. A complete, clean copy of the claims before the Examiner is enclosed herewith.

SUMMARY

The Abstract from the PCT case was substituted for the "Summary" section of the English translation, and the claims were amended to conform to standard U.S. practice.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

A filing fee is enclosed based on the number of independent and dependent claims in the application after entry of this Preliminary Amendment. No further fee or petition is believed to be necessary. However, should any further fee be needed, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0920, and deem this paper to be the required petition.

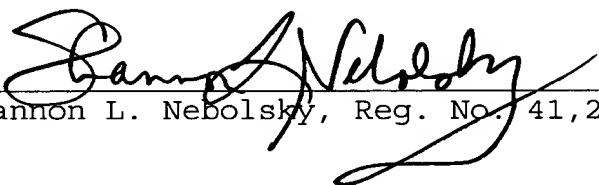
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The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned should any questions arise that can be dealt with over the phone to expedite this prosecution.

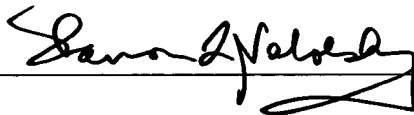
Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment including clean and marked-up copies of the Amendments, together with a 371 application and its papers and fee, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. EL706574854US, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 17, 2001.



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